

CLAIMS

1 1. In a data processing system including a legacy data base management system having a
2 command language coupled to a publically accessible digital data communication network,
3 the improvement comprising:

4 a. a document formatted in XML (extensible markup language) transferred via said
5 publically accessible digital data communication network to said data base
6 management system; and

7 b. an Input Definition Table (IDT) responsively coupled to said legacy data base
8 management system which converts said document into a format acceptable to said
9 legacy data base management system.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1 further comprising a Document Type Definition
2 (DTD) which defines the format of said document.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said IDT further comprises a plurality of
2 sequential text lines.

1 4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein at least one of said plurality of sequential
2 text lines provides access constraints.

1 5. The improvement according to claim 4 further comprising a repository responsively
2 coupled to said legacy data base management system wherein said IDT is stored within said
3 repository.

1 6. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. an XML document;

3 b. a publically accessible digital data communication network;

4 c. a data base management system having an input format different from XML
5 responsively coupled to said publically accessible digital data communication
6 network which receives said XML document via said publically accessible digital data
7 communication network; and

8 d. an Input Definition Table associated with said XML document which enables
9 conversion of said XML document into said input format.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a Document Type Definition (DTD) which
2 defines a format of said XML document.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said data base management system includes a
2 repository and said Input Definition Table is stored within said repository.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said Input Definition Table includes an access
2 constraint.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication
2 system further comprises the Internet.

1 11. A method of interfacing an XML document to a data base management system having
2 an incompatible input protocol comprising:

- 3 a. transferring said XML document to said data base management system via a
4 publically accessible digital data communication network;
- 5 b. converting said XML document into an XML mapping tree in accordance with a
6 Document Type Definition (DTD) corresponding to said XML document;
- 7 c. converting said XML document using an Input Definition Table (IDT); and
8 d. presenting said parsed XML document to said data base management system
9 for processing.

1 12. A method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of saving said IDT for future
2 use.

1 13. A method according to claim 12 wherein said IDT is retrieved from storage.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said IDT further comprises an access
2 constraint.

1 15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data
2 communication network further comprises the Internet.

1 16. An apparatus comprising:

2 a. means for transmitting an XML document;

3 b. means for stating a IDT associated with said document;

4 c. means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base
5 management functions; and

6 d. means responsively coupled to said providing means for converting said XML
7 document into a format compatible with said providing means based upon said IDT.

1 17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said parsing means further comprises
2 means for storing said IDT for future use.

1 18. An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said IDT further comprises an access
2 constraint.

1 19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises
2 the Internet.

1 20. An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising means for defining a format of
2 said XML document.